

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE,

Applicant:

Ross, et al.

Examiner: Toan C. To

Serial No.:

10/051,968

Group Art Unit: 3616

Filed: January 16, 2002

Date: September 11, 2003

For:

SPACER APPARATUS FOR SUSPENSION BEAM BUSHING ASSEMBLIES

Mail Stop Non-Fee Response Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION AND/OR **ELECTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. §121**

Sir:

In response to the official Action dated August 25, 2003, Applicants elect Species I shown in FIGS. 2 and 2A-2C for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Claim 1 and dependent claims 2-4 are readable on Species I.

In view of the above, it is submitted that a complete reply to the requirement has been made, and early examination of the invention is hereby respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCKINGHAM, DOOLITTLE & BURROUGHS, LLP

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Attorney Docket No.: HEND-AI (45007-144)

«CT2:378190_1»

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GROUP 3600



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Sir:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the attached Reply to Restriction And/or Election Requirement was mailed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Response, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, with sufficient first-class postage, no special handling, on September 11, 2003, before 5:00 p.m., thereby ensuring that such document(s) will be in the hands of the U.S. Postal Service by the close of business this day. Thus, timely response has been made prior to expiration of the period for submitting the same ending September 25, 2003.

No fee is deemed necessary; however, should a fee be required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which might be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 50-0983.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCKINGHAM, DOOLITTLE & BURROUGHS, LLP

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Enclosure:

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